

Volume 2, Issue 6

Dear SIC Members and Friends:

In this issue of *SIC Clips & Quips* (**Volume 2, Issue 6**), you'll find several items of importance for School Improvement Council members.

- **The Primaries and Elections Are Right Around the Corner!** With various local, statewide and Congressional offices up for election this year, we want local SIC members and public education supporters to know who's running, what their platforms are, and most importantly – to VOTE. Study up on the candidates and the issues and go to the polls to make your voices heard. We've posted a roster of offices and candidates (compiled by the S.C. School Boards Association) on the SC-SIC website, which you can access via the link provided below.

- **Riley Institute Public Education Survey.** The Richard W. Riley Institute of Government, Politics, and Public Leadership at Furman University invites you to participate in a follow-up survey to its groundbreaking research project (funded with the help of a grant from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation), "In Their Own Words: A Public Vision for Educational Excellence in South Carolina." To participate in this follow-up survey, and to learn more about the Riley Institute and the Hewlett project, click on the web links indicated below.

- **May is South Carolina Teacher Appreciation Month** and South Carolina Future Minds (a foundation promoting innovation for excellence in public education by equipping and advocating for educators as they prepare the state's students to thrive in a global community) is asking South Carolinians to take part by thanking an educator who's made a difference in their lives. Whether it's with a handshake, a note, a phone call – or perhaps a donation in their honor – this is a great time to show our teachers we're thinking about them and appreciate the work they do. (You can even honor a teacher with a donation to SC-SIC!) To learn more, follow the links listed below.

- **South Carolina Future Minds Race to the Top Petition.** As you may be aware, South Carolina is in a very tough national competition – Race to the Top – that could bring \$175 million in federal funds over four years to our state's public schools. The state placed sixth in the nation in the first round of applications, but the approaching second round is even more difficult. South Carolina Future Minds has established an online petition so that South Carolinians can indicate their support of this effort. You can learn more about the state's Race to the Top application and access the South Carolina Future Minds petition via the links provided below.

- **Learn and Serve Competitive Grants.** The S.C. Department of Education is accepting applications for Learn and Serve America K-12 School Based Program (LSA) competitive subgrants to provide service-learning activities integrated with curricula that address community health and wellness needs aligned with state achievement standards. SCDE, with funds provided through the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), anticipates awarding up to 17 grants of \$12,000 each for one year (renewable for up to two years) through the Learn and Serve America program. Local school boards, school districts and community or faith-based organizations with 501(c)3 status are eligible to apply through June 29, 2010. For an application package and additional information, see the link provided below or contact Ms. Peggy Hogan with the SCDE Office of Youth Services, phogan@ed.sc.gov.

- **The Annual SIC "Report to the Parents" is required by state law to be issued to school communities by April 30th each year.** We ask that all SICs send a copy of their "Report to the Parents" to our office by June 1st so that we can better assist SICs and get a more comprehensive picture of what SICs are doing

across the state. You can send your Report to us via U.S. Mail, or if you have it electronically, you can email it to us at wolverto@mailbox.sc.edu. Sending us your Report also serves as an accountability measure and provides us with data and information SC-SIC needs to share more about its work and impact on local SICs. We've already received a significant number of these Reports and appreciate the efforts of our local SICs in getting them to us!

Remember, *CLIPS & QUIPS* is sent to all SIC members who share their email addresses with us. Please print out and share this information with other SIC members who may not have received it. We are here to help you, so please contact us any time!

Links:

2010 South Carolina Election Roster

[/NR/rdonlyres/E911B946-0A20-437B-89AB-F0629A72A81F/0/2010ElectionRoster.pdf](#)

Riley Institute Survey

<http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/WEB22ANJFKDXV>

Richard W. Riley Institute of Government, Politics, and Public Leadership

www.rileyinstitute.org

"In Their Own Words: A Public Vision for Educational Excellence in South Carolina"

<http://riley.furman.edu/education/projects/hewlett-research/home>

Teacher Appreciation

http://www.scfutureminds.org/teacher_appreciation/

Donate to SC-SIC

<http://www.sic.sc.gov/donatetoscsic.htm>

2010-11 Learn and Serve Competitive Subgrant Application Package

<http://www.sic.sc.gov/NR/rdonlyres/D565EB52-F0CE-4E11-9112-C663FD90EFCE/0/201011LearnandServeRFPFINAL.pdf>

State Race to the Top Application Information

<http://ed.sc.gov/agency/Innovation-and-Support/RT3.html#ARRAReforms>

South Carolina Future Minds Race to the Top Petition

http://www.scfutureminds.org/sign_race_to_the_top_petition/